

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

1. (Currently amended) A method of improving an hydraulic binder based coating formulation for coating a building board having a first and second surface, the method comprising:

adding to said hydraulic binder a dewatering agent and water, said dewatering agent comprising fly ash, wherein the fly ash further comprises particles having two components with a first larger size component of particles of a 100 micron maximum size in an amount of about 10 to 60 wt% a first portion having a maximum particle diameter of around 10 microns in the amount of about 5 to 30 wt.% of the formulation based on the total dry ingredients and a second smaller size component of particles of about a 10 micron maximum size in an amount of about 5 to 30 wt.% ~~portion of a different size range having a maximum particle diameter of around 100 microns in the amount of 10 to 60 wt.% of the formulation based on the total dry ingredients,~~ such that after application of a slurry of said formulation to said first surface of said building board, said slurry is dewatered through the building board to said second surface of said building board.

2. (Currently amended) A The method according to Claim 1, wherein the dewatering agent is provided in a sufficient quantity to maintain porosity in the slurry during dewatering.

3. (Currently amended) A The method according to Claim 1, wherein the dewatering agent is a particulate material.

4. (Currently amended) A The method according to Claim 1, wherein the dewatering agent further includes alumina trihydrate, silica flour, cenospheres.

5. (Currently amended) A The method according to Claim 1, wherein the slurry has a water content of up to 50%.

6. (Currently amended) A The method according to Claim 1, wherein the coating includes fibres.

7. (Currently amended) A The method according to Claim 1, wherein the hydraulic binder used in the coating is selected from the group consisting of white, grey or pigmented cements, hydraulic limes or mixtures thereof.

8. (Currently amended) A The method according to Claim 1, wherein the hydraulic binder used in the coating is selected from the group consisting of Portland cement, blended cements, blast furnace slag, pozzolans, masonry cement, oil well cement, natural cement, alumina cement, expansive cements and mixtures thereof.

9. (Currently amended) A The method according to Claim 1, wherein the binder in the formulation is between 10 and 50 wt.% based on total dry weight.

10-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) A The method according to Claim 1, wherein the dewatering agent includes a coarse fraction fly ash portion having a particle size diameter greater than 100 microns.

13-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein dewatering occurs in at least about 120 seconds or less.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the slurry cures in at least about 48 hours.

18. (Currently amended) A method of improving an hydraulic binder based coating formulation for coating a building product having a first and second surface, the method comprising:

adding to said hydraulic binder a dewatering agent and water, said dewatering agent comprising fly ash, wherein the fly ash particles having two components with a first larger size component of particles of ~~has a first portion having a maximum particle diameter of around 10 microns in the amount of about 5 to 30 wt.% of the formulation based on the total dry ingredients and a coarser fraction fly ash portion having a particle size diameter~~ greater than 100 microns and a second size component of particles of about a 10 micron maximum size in an amount of about 5 to 30 wt.% of the formulation based on total dry ingredients, such that after application of a slurry of said formulation to said first surface of said building product, said slurry is dewatered through the building product to the second surface of said building product.

19. (Currently amended) A method of improving an hydraulic binder based coating formulation for coating a building product, the method comprising:

adding to said binder a dewatering agent and water, said dewatering agent comprising fly ash, ~~wherein a first portion of the fly ash has a maximum particle size diameter of around~~ particles having two components with a first larger size component of particles of 10 microns and comprises about 5 to 30 wt.% of the formulation based on the total dry ingredients and a ~~coarse fly ash portion has a particle size diameter of greater than 100 microns and a second size~~ component of particles of about a 10 micron maximum size in an amount of about 5 to 30 wt.% of the formulation based on total dry ingredients, such that after application of a slurry of said formulation to said building product, said slurry can be dewatered through the building product.

20. (Currently amended) A method of improving an hydraulic binder based coating formulation for coating a building product, the method comprising:

adding to said hydraulic binder a dewatering agent and water, said dewatering agent comprising fly ash particles having two components with a first larger size component of particles of about a 100 micron maximum size in an amount of about 10 to 60 wt%, ~~wherein the fly ash has a first portion having a maximum particle diameter of around 10 microns in the amount of about 5 to 30 wt.% of the formulation based on the total dry ingredients and a second~~ smaller size component of particles of about a 10 micron maximum size in an amount of about 5 to 30 wt.% ~~portion of a different size range having a maximum particle diameter of around 100 microns in the amount of 10 to 60 wt.% of the formulation based on the total dry ingredients,~~ such that after application of a slurry of said formulation to said building product, said slurry is dewatered through the building product in at least about 120 seconds or less.

21. (New) A coated board prepared by the method of Claim 1.

22. (New) An hydraulic binder based coating formulation prepared by the method of Claim 1.

23. (New) A coated building product prepared by the method of Claim 19.

24. (New) An hydraulic binder based coating formulation prepared by the method of Claim 1.

**STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW
UNDER 37 C.F.R § 1.133**

Applicants submit this Statement of Substance of Interview in accordance with 37 C.F.R § 1.133 to be made of record for the above-identified application for patent. Applicants respectfully request entry of the statement as set forth herein.

Applicants again wish to again thank the Examiner for the time and effort spent discussing with Applicants' representative the above-identified application for patent.

Applicants representative and the Examiner held an interview on June 12, 2007, in which the substance an Office Action mailed January 24, 2007, was discussed. Discussions included enablement and new matter rejections/objections as set forth on pages 2, 3 and 5 of the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007. With respect to claims language regarding various sizes of fly ash, the Examiner agreed to reconsider and allow amendments to the claims in which the size of fly ash was made to conform with language now allowed in co-pending U.S. Application No. 10/090,299. The Amendments as set forth in the Listing of Claims are in accordance with such an agreement arrived at on July 12, 2007.

This is intended to be a written statement as to the substance of a telephonic interview held July 12, 2007, and to be made of record in the application for patent.